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Manager's Newsletter

Volume VI, Issue 17 - September 11, 2009

The Town of Kitty Hawk's newsletter is authored and prepared by the Town Manager's Office every other Friday and sent electronically to anyone who wants to receive it. Paper copies of the newsletter are available at Town Hall. The newsletter does not present or represent opinions of the Town Council.

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Kitty Hawk's Heard wins the George C. Franklin Award

Joe Heard, Director of Planning and Inspections for the Town of Kitty Hawk, was named winner of the George C. Franklin Award during the April 23 graduation ceremony for the 2008–2009 Municipal Administration Course of the School of Government at UNC-Chapel Hill. The North Carolina League of Municipalities presents the award each year to the class member with the most distinguished record. The award, which was first given in 1955, honors the memory of one of the League's former general counsels. George Franklin served the League from 1942 until his untimely death in 1954. The recipient of the award also receives a check and a plaque.

"The League is always honored to present this award every year to an outstanding and deserving municipal employee from across the state," said S. Ellis Hankins, the League's Executive Director. "Joe rightly takes his place among the dozens of hard-working, dedicated municipal employees to whom we have had the honor of presenting the George C. Franklin Award."

The Municipal and County Administration Course is an intensive, eight-month program designed for city and county managers, department heads, and other city or county officials whose responsibilities require an understanding of functions beyond individual areas of specialization. Major areas of instruction include local government law, organization and management, finance and budgeting, public employment law, planning and regulation development, and municipal and county services. Participants are provided with a legal framework and practical application in these areas through lecture, case studies, and group work. The goal of the course is for participants to gain a

better appreciation and understanding of the relationship among the broad range of departments that make up local governments. The course involves about 150 hours of instruction and case study work. To graduate, course participants must meet attendance requirements and complete quizzes and assignments.

"The most valuable aspects of the course, to me, were learning about the context within which we operate as local government officials – state and federal legislation, the legal framework, etc.," said Heard. "This information helped me understand why we do things in a certain way. It was also refreshing to learn about many aspects of local government that I don't deal with on a day-to-day basis in a smaller municipality. It gave me a greater appreciation for the interaction and support that different departments offer each other within local government.

"In addition, I enjoyed the interaction with my classmates, both in and out of the classroom. The opportunity for sharing ideas, learning about innovative projects and programs in other communities throughout the state, celebrating successes, and commiserating over difficult times was a highlight of the experience." Heard was one of 65 people who graduated from the Municipal Administration Course in 2009 and is one of more than 2,600 officials who have completed the course since it began in 1954.

Danny Searcy, county planner for Rutherford County, North Carolina, was named winner of the Edwin M. Gill Award, given by the N.C. Association of County Commissioners for the outstanding County Administration Course student. "If there was ever a time when local governments need to be 'on their game,' this is it," School of Government Dean Mike Smith said to the graduates. "I hope that, after completing this rigorous course of study, you feel better prepared to help your communities with the many challenges facing our state today."

Navy Band to Perform at Kitty Hawk Heritage Day Festival

The town of Kitty Hawk received news this week that the Fleet Forces Command Four Star Edition Band will perform at this year's Heritage Day Festival, to be held Saturday, September 26th at the Promenade. The performance is scheduled for 12:30 PM. The Four Star Edition entertains audiences with its refreshing blend of contemporary music that includes today's top-40 hits, Latin and Country music, as well as Classic Rock and Roll. Made up of some of the Navy's most versatile musicians, their performances present diverse, high-energy shows that entertain audiences of all ages. The festival's entertainment will also include a lively performance by our own First Flight High School Band Jazz Hawks.

Kitty Hawk's annual Heritage Day Festival will begin September 26th at 10:00 AM and end at 4:00PM. A free shuttle bus will provide transportation from the Wal-Mart parking lot to the Promenade for a day filled with fun, heritage displays, live entertainment and free activities for people of all ages.

Public Works - Large Item Pick-Up

<u>Large Item Pick-Up: Tuesday, October 13, 2009</u>

The Dare County Sanitation Department will be conducting a large household pick-up for residential customers only. No commercial business debris will be picked up.

If large item pick-up falls on your regular garbage collection day, please do not block the garbage container. Materials must be at curbside no later than 6:00 a.m. on the date of collection. There will not be a second day pick-up.

On this special pick-up, the County <u>will</u> collect the following recyclable items: used auto tires, used motor oil (only in spill proof containers), auto radiators, scrap metals (rims, motor parts), appliances, furniture, and mattresses and box springs. Please remove doors from refrigerators.

The following items <u>will not</u> be collected: old clothes, shoes, cardboard, tree limbs, stumps, leaves, any yard-clearing debris, construction/demolition materials such as lumber, toilets, windows, doors, etc., any hazardous materials (oil based paint, pesticides, etc). Water based paint can be picked up but must be dried out. All normal household garbage must be disposed of in your black can.

Planning Board Meeting Summary September 10, 2009

At its meeting on September 10, 2009, the Kitty Hawk Planning Board reviewed a conditional use permit application to legally establish a part-time preschool/day care program in the existing commercial building at 5118 Lindbergh Avenue. The Planning Board expressed concerns about the amount of parking required for the use and decided that a lesser parking standard would meet the needs of the business in this situation. The Board members voted unanimously to recommend approval of the application with the condition that the preschool use be brought into compliance with all applicable building and fire code standards.

At the request of the Planning staff, the Planning Board discussed a potential text amendment to clear up a confusing section of the zoning ordinance regarding commercial recreational uses in the Sound Waters zoning district. The Board members asked Planning staff to provide some additional information on the adoption of the section in question and definitions of "commercial recreational activities" from other communities before taking any action on this issue.

Following the items on the agenda, Vice-Chair Tina Tice asked her fellow Board members to consider a review of the Town's shared parking standards and minimum parking requirements. As the other members agreed, these items will be discussed at the next meeting of the Planning Board.

Code Enforcement Activities - August 2009

CODE VIOLATIONS		
Notice of Violations Issued	3	
Civil Citations Issued	1	
Land Disturbance Activity		
Public Nuisance	2	
Abandon/Junk Vehicles	7	
Right of Way Encroachments		
Lighting Violations		
Site Plan Violations	2	
No Building Permit		
Home Occupations		
Signs	36	
Noise Violations		
Flood Ordinance		
TOTALS	51	
CAMA PERMITS		
Minor Permits		
Exemption Letters	1	
Beach Push Permits		
CAMA Violations Issued		
TOTALS	1	
BANNER PERMITS	_	
TOTALS	2	
OUTDOOR GATHERING PERMITS		
TOTALS	3	
FIRE INSPECTIONS		
Assembly	3	2 Violations
Business		
Mercantile	3	14 Violations
Educational		
Residential	1	4 Violation
Industrial		
Manufacturing		
Hood System		
Tent		
Sprinkler Systems		
Re-inspections		
First	8	21 Violation Corrected 2 Violations Not Corrected
Second	3	8 Violations Corrected
Third		
Sixth	1	7 Violations Not Corrected
TOTALS	18	

August Building Permit Report

The Town's Planning and Inspections Department issued twenty six (26) building permits totaling \$199,461.30 in August 2009. Five (5) commercial permits were issued valued at \$95,996. Twenty One (21) residential building permits were issued valued at \$103,465.30. The full report for August can be viewed at the **Monthly Building Permit Report** found on the Town Website.

Dare County Board of Commissioners Defer Ad Valorem Tax Revaluation for Another Year

On Tuesday, September 8, 2009, the Dare County Board of Commissioners postponed the 2010 ad valorem tax revaluation until 2011. On data collected it appeared that 73% of the residential taxpayers would have received a tax increase when applying the revenue neutral rate. Based on a valuation of \$247,000, property owners would have seen an increase of about \$46.00 per year. The Board felt it was better to give the economy another year to stabilize, property values another year to possibly improve and people another year to get their finances in order.

Kitty Hawk Woods Coastal Reserve Hosts Fall Nature Hikes

KITTY HAWK, N.C. – This fall, enjoy a naturalist-guided walk through Kitty Hawk Woods Coastal Reserve. Explore the flora and fauna of this prized maritime forest and catch a glimpse of some of the last remaining true wilderness in the Outer Banks. This moderate hike for adults and children ages seven and above will begin at the end of Ridge Road in Kitty Hawk. Closed-toed shoes and bug spray are recommended. Reservations are not required.

Nature hikes in Kitty Hawk Woods are currently scheduled for:

Date: Sundays, Sept. 13, 20, and 27 (additional dates may be announced

soon)

Time: 9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Location: Ridge Road Trailhead, Kitty Hawk Woods Coastal Reserve

Turn north off West Kitty Hawk Road

For more information contact Northern Sites manager Bo Dame at 252-261-8891. For more information about the Kitty Hawk Woods Coastal Reserve, visit the Reserve's website at www.nccoastalreserve.net.

County Government 101 – An Introduction and Overview Sponsored by the League of Woman Voters

Dorothy Toolan, Public information Officer, has put together an outstanding program. Bobby Outten, the new County Manager/County Attorney; David Clawson, Finance Director; Ray Sturza, Planning Director; Donna Creef, Senior Planner; Edward Lee Mann, Public Works Director; Carl Walker, Recycling Coordinator, and Dorothy Toolan will make presentations. There will be a question and answer period after each presenter, and tours of the Administration Building will be offered following the workshop. Since many of the citizens in Dare County are from other areas of the country, this program will be very useful to all members in helping us to understand the workings of the County. Please invite all your friends and neighbors to this informative program. Scheduled for Wednesday, September 23rd at 1:30 p.m. at the Dare County Administration Building (954 Marshall Collins Drive Manteo, NC) Room 168.

Opportunities to Participate

Heritage Day Meeting – The Promenade

Tuesday, September 22, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.

Town Council Meeting

Monday, October 5, 2009 at 6 p.m.

Planning Board Meeting

Thursday, October 8, 2009 at 6 p.m.

(All Meetings to be held at Kitty Hawk Town Hall unless otherwise noted.)